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## DEP's Top Ten List: High Priority, Long-term Initiatives Plan

Maine Department of Environmental Protection

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# **DEP's Top Ten List**

## **High Priority, Long-term Initiatives Plan**

July 2004

### **1. Continue primary functions and responsibilities**

(Senior Management Team (SMT), Jim Dusch, David Maxwell, Scott Whittier, Bryce Sproul, David Sait, Paula Clark)

- Financial Solvency: Review existing funding/fees and coordinate with budget; Review Recovery of Costs for DEP activities
- Staff Input on activities: Conduct staff survey on current responsibilities and future endeavors (Malcolm Burson)

### **2. Continue existing, and develop a coordinated process, to promote Public Health and the Environment**

(David Littell, John Chandler, Mark Hyland)

Create a task force to recommend action on the following issues: Childhood Lead Paint Exposure

Air Toxics Initiatives (David Wright)

Exposure to Diesel Fumes

Reducing public exposure to Mercury (Andy Fisk)

Bromated Flame Retardants

Bacteria Contamination of Maine Waters

Use of Tetrachloroethylene (PERC)

Adult Worker Lead Poisoning

West Nile; standing water, pesticides, tires

Emergent Chemicals

Integrate Data from CDC and other initiatives

Worker Health as it relates to the environment

Indoor Air Quality as it relates to the environment

Integrating health factors into site review (Andy Fisk, Jeff Madore)

Protect groundwater from contamination

### **3. Ensure the Green House Gas initiative takes off**

(Jim Brooks, Ron Dyer, Ron Severance, and Malcolm Burson)

Voluntary Agreements

Put in place meaningful measures

### **4. Provide a climate and opportunities for DEP staff to better do their work and to continue to develop their skills and careers**

(Dawn Gallagher, George Viles, David Maxwell)

- Follow up on earlier efforts
- Consider floating project positions and alternatives, job exchanges, educational opportunities and more
- Establish focus group to explore issues such as telecommuting (where feasible), a variety of work weeks, and other options
- Prepare for knowledge transfer

**5. Develop a “Land Recycling” program that cleans up existing sites or addresses “restarts” of industries and where possible, promotes job opportunities**

(Jim Dusch, Steve Davis, David Littell, David Maxwell, Mark, Hyland, Scott Whittier, John Chandler, Paula Clark )

Further Develop Brownfields and Greenfields Program  
Develop funding sources

**6. Develop waste solutions for landfills and recycling that protect the environment**

(John Wathen, Dawn Gallagher, Steve Davis, Scott Whittier, Paula Clark, George Seel)



Organic waste  
New Technology  
Reducing waste  
How to address existing waste-to-energy infrastructure  
Product Stewardship

**7. Develop and implement mechanisms for municipalities and private industries to integrate water quality classification upgrades to capital investment planning. (Long term plan for assigning classes of water bodies)**

(Andy Fisk and Ed Logue, Bill Brown, Dave Courtemanch)

Develop long term strategy for bonds  
Coordinate capital budgets and planning

**8. Use alternative methods for businesses to go “beyond compliance”**

(Ron Dyer, Dawn Gallagher. Scott Whittier)

Expand Step-Up program  
Develop 3 rd party audits where limited staff  
Review Funding mechanisms  
Coordinate Cross-Media issues  
Promote “Maine Way” business (sustainable, socially responsible, etc)

## **9. Develop and implement specific education programs for priority initiatives**

(Deb Garrett)

## **10. "Make Maine Better Off" by accomplishing 1-9 initiatives**

(Everybody)



### **On a parallel track, shorter term priorities with SMT action**

- **Review the shoreland zoning program, including what the most effective long range strategy should be.**  
(Andy Fisk, Jim Dusch, Jeff Madore)
- **Continue and improve electronic access to DEP especially for high volume compliance reports and service requests and implement One-Stop**  
(Dave Blocher)
- **Develop soil erosion plan—"keeping soil soil"**  
(Nick Archer, Don Witherill, Andy Fisk)
- **Create a program to comprehensively implement Natural Resource Damage assessments (NRD)**  
(Steve Davis, Ed Logue, Scott Whittier)
- **Promote oversight of Maine waters on a watershed basis**  
(Andy Fisk, Brian Kavanah)
- **Develop strategies for mobile sources that improve air quality**  
(Jim Brooks, Ron Severance)